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**劉発明の名称** 

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ルテニウム四酸化物の濃度センサ

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明 鑋

1. 発明の名称

ルテニウム四酸化物の濃度センサ

- 2. 特許請求の範囲
  - 1. 有機膜を電極表面に僻えた水晶振動子を用い、 被対象環境中のルテニウム四酸化物の濃度を検 出することを特徴とするルテニウム四酸化物の 濃度センサ。
  - こ 水晶級動子の電極表面に有機膜を備え、ルテ ニウム四酸化物をルテニウム二酸化物として遠 元沈若させることによる重量増加を前記水晶摄 動子の共鳴周波数の変化としてとらえ、ルテニ ウム四酸化物の濃度として検出することを特徴 とするルテニウム四酸化物の濃度センサ。
  - 3. 有機膜がポリエチレン,ゴムのいずれかであ ることを特徴とする請求項1または2に記載の ルテニウム四酸化物の濃度センサ。
  - 4. 原子燃料再処理プラントにおいて、硝酸水溶 **液中、あるいは、蒸気相中のルテニウム四酸化** 物濃度を検出する戸法として、有機膜を電極表

面に備えた水晶振動子を用い、ルテニウム四酸 化物をルテニウム二酸化物として還元沈着させ ることによる重量増加を前記水晶振動子の共鳴 周波数の変化としてとらえ、ルテニウム四酸化 物の適度として検出することを特徴とするシス テム.

- 5. 電極表面に有機膜を備えた水晶振動子を二つ 備え、一つを被測定環境に、他の一つを有機膜 を介してルテニウム四酸化物を除去した環境に おくことにより、二つの摄動子の周波数変化の 差から、被測定環境におけるルテニウム四酸化 物の適度を測定するルテニウム四酸化物の濃度 センサ.
- 6. 電極の表面に有機膜を備えた水晶振動子、周 波数カウンタ及び周波数変化の微分計算ユニツ トよりなるルテニウム四酸化物の濃度湖定シス 7 L.
- 3. 発明の詳細な説明

〔産業上の利用分野〕

本苑明はルテニウム四酸化物(RuO。)を検

出するセンサに関する。

#### (従来の技術)

従来、ルテニウム四酸化物(RuO。) の分析 法については、アナリテイカル・ケミストリー、 33巻、(1961年) 第886頁から第888 頁 (Anal. Chem. vol. 33 (1961) PP 886-888) において論じられているように、 被中のルテニウム四酸化物の分析には試料被中の ルテニウム四酸化物(RuOa)を四塩化炭素 (CC Q → ) で溶媒抽出し、ルテニウム四酸化物 のみを分離し、これを比色分析法、あるいは、誘 導プラズマ発光分析 (ICP) 法等により定量分 折するという方法が、一般に、とられている。気 相中のルテニウム四酸化物の分析も、そのままの 状態での分析は衝めて困難であり、試料ガス中に 窒素ガスなどをキヤリアガスとして吹込み、試料 ガスを四塩化炭素に通じて、試料ガス中のルテニ ウム四酸化物を四塩化炭素にトラツブした後、こ れを講導プラズマ発光分析法等により定量すると いつた方法が考えられる。但し、この方法による

り、室間以上の高温とりわけ約80℃以上では適用できないという問題があつた。そして、分離操作後の定量分析法としては誘導プラズマ発光分析法が最も一般的に行われているが、ルテニウムとしての検出感度は0.05ag/ 4 である。つまり、誘導プラズマ発光分析法を適用しても、0.05ag/ 4 以下のルテニウムを検出することができないという問題点があつた。

#### (課題を解決するための手段)

上記目的を達成するために、本発明では水晶摄動子の共鳴局波数変化 (Δf) が電極の重量変化 (Δm) に比例するという原理を用いている。この関係を(1) 式に示す。

$$\Delta f = \frac{f^2}{S \rho K_I} \Delta m \qquad \cdots (1)$$

ここに、S: 電値面積, ρ: 水晶密度, K; : 周波数定数, f: 共鳴周波数

電便には通常、金あるいは銀が用いられているがこの表面に有機膜を塗布する。有機膜をルテニウム四酸化物を含む環境に置くと、ルテニウム四

と気相中のルテニウム四酸化物を系外に追い出すため、系内のルテニウム四酸化物の気液平衡をかき乱され、液相から気相へのルテニウム四酸化物の新たな移行が生じる可能性があり、実際に気相中に存在していたルテニウム四酸化物量よりも、多く見積られる可能性がある。

#### 〔発明が解決しようとする課題〕

酸化物は有機膜により還元され、ルテニウム二酸 化物が生成。沈着する。この沈着速度はルテニウム四酸化物の濃度に比例する。従つて、Δ f の時間に対する変化(微分値)をとることにより、ルテニウム四酸化物の濃度を知ることができる。

#### (作用)

ところで、この周波数変化は周波数カウンタによりとらえることができ、さらに、共鸣周波数との差分ならびに時間変化は別途、微分計算ユニットを備えれば計算が可能である。この周波数変化

#### (実施例)

以下、本発明の一実施例を第1 図及び第2 図により説明する。

第1図に示される水晶振動子 5 を、例えば、 ATカット、共鳴周波数 4・1 9 M Hz、周波数定数 1・6 7×10 scar・Hzのものを、ルテニウム四酸化物を含む環境中に設置し、第2図に示すような周波数湖定装置の周波数カウンタ 7 により、水

わしているものと同じである。

なお、図中9は電極、12は発掘回路、14は D/Aコンパータ、15はレコーダ、16は電源、 17は被測定室である。

#### (発明の効果)

本発明によれば、 高感度でルテニウム四酸化物 譲渡をその場で検出することができる。

#### 4. 図面の簡単な説明

第1図は本発明の一実施例の断面図、第2図は

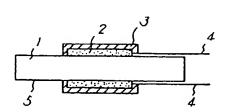
品級助子5の周波数を計測する。図中1は水晶、 2は銀電便、3はポリエチレン膜、4はリード線、 水晶振動子5の表面のポリエチレン膊上に、煙堆 中のルテニウム四酸化物がルテニウム二酸化物の 固体として吸着し、吸着したルテニウム二酸化物 最に対応した分だけ、水晶振動子5の間波数が密 化する。この周波数変化を測定することにより、 環境中のルテニウム二酸化物の量を定量すること ができる。図中、6は発掘回路、7は周波数カウ ンタ. この水品撮動子の場合、周波数変化1版当 リルテニウム二酸化物 1.3 × 10 \*\*\* g / cf / lb に相当する。ルテニウム二酸化物とルテニウム四 酸化物は分子量の比がRuO4/RuO2=165.07 /133.7 であるので、得られたルテニウムニ 殷化物量に165.07/133.07を掛けた値 が環境中のルテニウム四酸化物量に相当する。ま た、得られるルテニウム二酸化物と環境中のルテ ニウム四酸化物のモル数は等しいので、得られた ルテニウム二酸化物量をモル濃度表示すれば、こ れは環境中のルテニウム四酸化物のモル濃度を表

本発明のブロック図、第3図は本発明の他の実施 例のブロック図である。

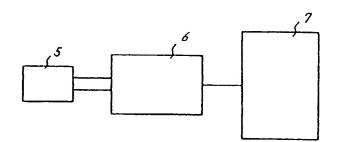
1 …水品、2 …銀電櫃、3 …ポリエチレン膜、4 …リード線、5 …水品振動子。

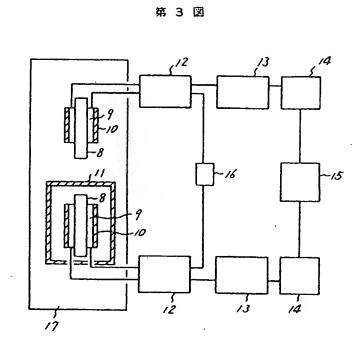
代理人 弁理士 小川勝り











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TITLE: Sensor to detect the concn. of ruthenium tetra:oxide - comprises quartz oscillator having organic membrane, e.g. polyethylene or rubber on electrode surface

PRIORITY-DATA: 1989JP-0113737 (May 8, 1989)

PATENT-FAMILY:

PUB-NO

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December 4, 1990

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INT-CL (IPC): G01N 5/02; G01N 31/00

ABSTRACTED-PUB-NO: JP02293644A

**BASIC-ABSTRACT:** 

A sensor to detect the concn. of ruthenium tetraoxide where a quartz oscillator having an organic membrane (pref. polyethylene or rubber) on the electrode surface is used for detecting the concn. of the ruthenium tetraoxide in a sample environment.

The ruthenium tetraoxide is reduced into ruthenium dioxide and deposited on the organic membrane on the electrode surface, the resulting weight increase is converted into the change of the resonance frequency of the quartz oscillator and the concn. of the ruthenium tetraoxide is detected.

The sensor is esp. useful for detecting the concn. of ruthenium tetraoxide in a nitric acid aq. soln. or in a vapour phase in an atomic fuel reprocessing plant.

Two quartz oscillators having an organic membrane on the electrode surface are used and one is placed in a sample environment while the other is placed in an environment (from which the ruthenium tetraoxide is removed) enclosed with an organic membrane and the concn. of the ruthenium tetraoxide in the sample environment is measured from the difference between the frequency changes of two oscillators.

USE/ADVANTAGE - The concn. of the ruthenium tetraoxide can be detected on the spot with high sensitivity.

Your reference: 150.0101 0101

(19) JAPAN PATENT BUREAU (JP)

(11) Japanese Laid-Open Patent No.:

Heisei 2-293644

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Request for exam.: None No. of Claims: 6 (Total 4 pages)

(54) Title of the invention: Ruthenium tetroxide concentration sensor

(21) Application No.: Heisei 1-113737

(22) Application date: 5/8/1989 (Heisei 1)

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#### **SPECIFICATION**

#### 1. Title of the invention

Ruthenium tetroxide (RuO<sub>4</sub>) concentration sensor

#### 2. Patent Claims

- 1. An RuO<sub>4</sub> concentration sensor in which a crystal (quartz) oscillator having an organic membrane electrode surface is used and which detects the concentration of RuO<sub>4</sub> in the said subject environment.
- 2. An RuO<sub>4</sub> concentration sensor which has an organic membrane on the electrode surface of a crystal (quartz) oscillator which measures weight change resulting from the deposition due to the reduction of RuO<sub>4</sub> into RuO<sub>2</sub>, as the change in resonance frequency of the said crystal (quartz) oscillator, in order to detect the RuO<sub>4</sub> concentration.
- 3. RuO<sub>4</sub> concentration sensor of Claim 1 or 2, in which the organic membrane is either polyethylene or rubber.
- 4. A system for detection of RuO<sub>4</sub> in aqueous nitric acid solution or in its vapor phase, for atomic fuel reprocessing plants, in which the crystal (quartz) oscillator having an organic membrane on the electrode surface is used, and the weight change due to the reduction/deposition of RuO<sub>4</sub> into RuO<sub>2</sub> is measured as the change of resonance frequency of the said crystal (quartz) oscillator, in order to detect the RuO<sub>4</sub> concentration.
- 5. An RuO<sub>4</sub> concentration sensor having two crystal (quartz) oscillators with an organic membrane on their electrode surfaces, which measures the concentration of RuO<sub>4</sub> in the subject environment from the difference in the change in frequencies of two oscillators, by placing one oscillator in the environment to be measured and the other oscillator in an environment from which the RuO<sub>4</sub> is removed.
- 6. An RuO<sub>4</sub> concentration measuring system composed of a crystal (quartz) oscillator having an organic membrane on the electrode surface, a frequency counter and a differential calculator unit that calculates the frequency change.

# 3. Detailed explanation of the invention

## Areas of industrial application:

This invention relates to a sensor that detects the concentration of RuO<sub>4</sub>.

## **Conventional technology:**

Conventionally, as is discussed in Analytical Chemistry, Volume 33 (1961), pp. 836-888 (Anal. Chem., Vol. 33 (1961), pp. 886-888), ruthenium tetroxide (RuO<sub>4</sub>) in a specimen sample is solvent-extracted with carbon tetrachloride (CCl<sub>4</sub>) for analysis of the RuO<sub>4</sub> in the solution, and only RuO<sub>4</sub> is separated, and, in general, analyzed colorimetrically or induction-phase-analyzed (ICP) for quantification. Analysis of RuO<sub>4</sub> in the gas phase is very difficult, so that a carrier gas such as nitrogen gas is blown into the specimen, the specimen gas is passed through CCl<sub>4</sub> to trap the RuO<sub>4</sub> in the CCl<sub>4</sub>, which is then quantified by an induction plasma analyzer, etc. However, in this method, RuO<sub>4</sub> in the gas phase is expelled from the system, so that the gas-liquid equilibrium of the RuO<sub>4</sub> in the system is disturbed and more RuO<sub>4</sub> can move from the liquid phase to the gas phase. Thus, the RuO<sub>4</sub> present in the gas phase can be overestimated.

## Problem this invention intends to solve:

The said conventional technology needs a separation operation in which the RuO<sub>4</sub> in the specimen in both the liquid phase and the gas phase is extracted with CCl<sub>4</sub> and also needs to analyze colorimetrically or by induction-plasma-analysis the separated RuO<sub>4</sub>, by setting the separated solution into a device. Therefore, the RuO<sub>4</sub> cannot be quantified on-site in real time and continuous monitoring of the RuO<sub>4</sub> concentration is not feasible. Extraction of RuO<sub>4</sub> with CCl<sub>4</sub> is not safe near the ambient temperature because CCl<sub>4</sub> decomposes at approximately 80°C or above, so that the method cannot be applied at ambient temperature, especially at approximately 80°C or above. Although induction plasma analysis is most popular for quantification after the separation operation, the detection sensitivity of ruthenium is 0.05 mg/L, i.e., even induction plasma analysis fails to detect 0.05 mg/L of ruthenium.

## Means to solve the problem:

The principle that the resonance frequency change ( $\triangle f$ ) of the crystal (quartz) oscillator is proportional to the weight change of the electrode ( $\triangle m$ ) may be applicable in the solution of the above problem. This relationship is shown below in (1)

$$\Delta f = \frac{f^{[2?]}}{\Delta m} \qquad .... \qquad (1)$$

$$SpKt$$

where, S is the electrode area, p is the crystal (quartz) density,  $K_{[t?]}$  is the frequency constant and f is the resonance frequency.

Normally, gold or silver is used for the electrode, but here, an organic membrane is applied on the electrode surface. When the organic membrane is placed in an  $RuO_4$ -containing environment,  $RuO_4$  is reduced by the organic membrane and  $RuO_2$  is generated and deposited. The rate of this deposition is proportional to the  $RuO_4$  concentration. Therefore, a time change of  $\Delta f$  (differential value) indicates the concentration of  $RuO_4$ .

#### **Function:**

Since  $RuO_4$  is a very strong oxidizing agent, it becomes reduced when it contacts the oxidizable organic substance and it is converted to stable  $RuO_2$ . Therefore, the weight of the electrode increases with the deposition and the resonance frequency of the crystal (quartz) oscillator changes. Since the frequency change ( $\Delta f$ ) is proportional to the weight change ( $\Delta m$ ), as mentioned above, the time change of  $\Delta f$  can tell the amount of  $RuO_2$  generated, i.e., the initial  $RuO_4$  concentration.

Now, the frequency change can be measured by a frequency counter and the difference from the resonance frequency and the time change can be calculated by a separate differential calculator unit. The frequency change can be measured by one crystal (quartz) oscillator, but when two oscillators are used as follows, it can be measured more accurately. That is, one oscillator is placed in the RuO<sub>4</sub>-containing environment to be measured and the other is placed in an environment from which RuO<sub>4</sub> was removed by the organic membrane, etc. The difference between the two oscillators is measured, and then the effect of a substance other

than RuO<sub>4</sub>, for example, contamination due to adsorbed moisture, oxidation of the organic membrane on the electrode, or frequency change due to temperature change are compensated and the amount of RuO<sub>2</sub> deposited on the organic membrane due to reduction of RuO<sub>4</sub> only can be detected.

# **Practical Example:**

A practical example of this invention is explained below with the aid of Figures 1 and 2.

Crystal (quartz) oscillator 5, shown in Figure 1, for example, is that of an AT cut, 4.19 MHz resonance frequency and 1.67 x 10<sup>5</sup> cm. The Hz frequency constant is put in an RuO<sub>4</sub>containing environment and the frequency of crystal (quartz) oscillator 5 is measured by frequency counter 7 of the frequency measuring device, as shown in Figure 2. In the figure, 1 is crystal (quartz), 2 is a silver electrode, 3 is the polyethylene membrane and 4 is the lead wire. The RuO<sub>4</sub> in the environment is deposited on the polyethylene membrane on the surface of crystal (quartz) oscillator 5 as RuO<sub>2</sub> and the frequency of crystal (quartz) oscillator 5 changes in proportion to the amount of deposited RuO<sub>2</sub>. Measurement of such frequency change can quantify the amount of RuO<sub>2</sub> in the environment. In the figure, numeral 6 is the oscillation circuit, 7 is the frequency counter. In the case of this crystal (quartz) oscillator, the frequency change of 1 Hz corresponds to 1.3 x 10<sup>-[?]</sup> g/cm<sup>2</sup>/Hz of RuO<sub>2</sub>. Since the molecular weight ratio between RuO<sub>4</sub> and RuO<sub>2</sub> is RuO<sub>4</sub>/RuO<sub>2</sub> = 165.07/133.7, the value of the amount of obtained RuO<sub>2</sub> multiplied by 165.07/133.07 gives the amount of RuO<sub>4</sub> in the environment. Since the number of moles of the obtained RuO<sub>2</sub> and RuO<sub>4</sub> in the environment are equal, the molar concentration of RuO<sub>4</sub> in the environment can be given if the amount of obtained RuO<sub>2</sub> is expressed in molar concentration.

Figure 3 is an example using two crystal (quartz) oscillators. One oscillator is put in the subject environment to be measured and the other oscillator is placed in chamber 11, which is covered with the organic membrane. Only RuO<sub>4</sub> is removed inside the chamber because RuO<sub>4</sub> is removed by the organic membrane 10, and the other environmental factors are the same as on the outside. When the frequency changes of these two oscillators are measured simultaneously, the difference is due to the effect of RuO<sub>4</sub> only. When the difference is measured by frequency counter 13, then the RuO<sub>4</sub> concentration can be determined.

Incidentally, in the figure, numeral 9 is an electrode, 12 is an oscillation circuit, 14 is a D/A converter, 15 is a recorder, 16 is the supply source and 17 is the measured chamber.

# Effect of the invention:

RuO<sub>4</sub> can be measured accurately on-site with a high sensitivity with the aid of this invention.

# 4. Brief explanation of the figures

Figure 1 is a cross-section of a practical example of this invention; Figure 2 is a block diagram of this invention and Figure 3 is a block diagram of another practical example of this invention.

- 1 crystal (quartz)
- 2 silver electrode
- 3 polyethylene membrane
- 4 lead wire
- 5 crystal (quartz) oscillator

Agent: K. OGAWA, Patent Agent

Figure 1

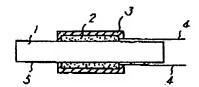


Figure 2

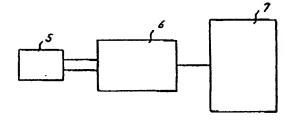


Figure 3

